

|  |  |   |  |                                   |  |                               |  |
|--|--|---|--|-----------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|--|
| <b>INFORMATION<br/>DISCLOSURE<br/>CITATION</b><br>PTO-1449 |  | <b>CUSTOMER<br/>NUMBER</b><br><br>44987 |  | ATTORNEY'S DKT No.<br>0050-0163   |  | APPLICATION No.<br>09/955,955 |  |
|  |  |   |  | APPLICANT(S)<br>Hirofumi YAMAGIWA |  |                               |  |
|  |  |   |  | FILING DATE<br>September 20, 2001 |  | GROUP<br>2882                 |  |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS  |            |      |      |       |          |                |
|------------------------|------------|------|------|-------|----------|----------------|
| EXAMINER'S<br>INITIALS | PATENT NO. | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING<br>DATE |
|                        |            |      |      |       |          |                |
|                        |            |      |      |       |          |                |
|                        |            |      |      |       |          |                |
|                        |            |      |      |       |          |                |
|                        |            |      |      |       |          |                |
|                        |            |      |      |       |          |                |
|                        |            |      |      |       |          |                |
|                        |            |      |      |       |          |                |


  

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |             |         |         |       |          |             |    |
|--------------------------|-------------|---------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|----|
| EXAMINER'S<br>INITIALS   | PATENT NO.  | DATE    | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | Translation |    |
|                          |             |         |         |       |          | Yes         | No |
| Hie                      | WO 97/13380 | 4/10/97 | WIPO    |       |          |             |    |
| Hie                      | WO 00/18179 | 3/30/00 | WIPO    |       |          |             |    |
|                          |             |         |         |       |          |             |    |
|                          |             |         |         |       |          |             |    |
|                          |             |         |         |       |          |             |    |

| OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) |   |
|--|---|
| Hie  | Office Action from German Patent Office in a corresponding German application (4 pages) and English translation (3 pages), November 23, 2004. |
|  |   |
|  |   |
|  |   |

|   |                                   |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| EXAMINER<br> | DATE CONSIDERED<br>April 15, 2005 |
|---|-----------------------------------|

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant(s).

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of

1

|                        |                    |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Application Number     | 09/955,955         |
| Confirmation Number    | 9978               |
| Filing Date            | September 20, 2001 |
| First Named Inventor   | Hirofumi YAMAGIWA  |
| Art Unit               | 2882               |
| Examiner Name          | not yet assigned   |
| Attorney Docket Number | O66339             |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |                 |                                      |                                |   |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number |                                      | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document |
|                       |                          | Number          | Kind Code <sup>2</sup><br>(if known) |                                |   |
|                       |                          | US              |                                      |                                |   |
|                       |                          | US              |                                      |                                |   |
|                       |                          | US              |                                      |                                |   |
|                       |                          | US              |                                      |                                |   |
|                       |                          | US              |                                      |                                |   |
|                       |                          | US              |                                      |                                |   |
|                       |                          | US              |                                      |                                |   |
|                       |                          | US              |                                      |                                |   |
|                       |                          | US              |                                      |                                |   |
|                       |                          | US              |                                      |                                |   |

**RECEIVED**

**MAR 12 2004**

**Technology Center 2000**

[illegible][illegible]

Andrews

**Date Considered**

April 15, 2005

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.